

Minutes: Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Council

Date: Dec. 11, 2020
Time: 10 a.m. to noon
Location: Virtual via Webex

Call to order: Paul Aasen, chairman

Announcements

Approval of Dec. 11, 2020 agenda

Agenda has been approved

Approval of Aug. 7, 2020 meeting minutes

• Meeting minutes have been approved

Department update: Roslyn Robertson, deputy commissioner

Remote meeting statement

Thank you for joining this remote meeting via Webex. As the acting commissioner, I have determined today's meeting is via the Webex platform due to the current status of the state of Minnesota operating under the peacetime emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Per Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.021, of the Open Meeting Law, electronic meetings are acceptable when an in-person meeting is "not practical or prudent because of a health pandemic or an emergency declared under Chapter 12."

- Everyone present on this Webex event can hear all discussions.
- All votes will be taken by roll call.
- All handouts discussed and Webex instructions are posted on the board's website.

Department updates

- The Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) is working on its strategic plan to send to the governor's office.
- DLI is working on the new technology system for workers' compensation claims called Work Comp Campus.
 - DLI rolled Campus out Nov. 2.

- All related forms are now submitted electronically.
- DLI is working to track concerns from stakeholders to make the program the best it can be.
- DLI is deploying weekly system releases to update and fix issues in Campus.
- DLI is still working with businesses to help roll out a safe plan for returning to work and for continuing to operate businesses during COVID-19.
- The DLI Labor Standards unit is continuing to see a huge increase in complaints and concerns coming from businesses that need guidance during this pandemic.

Governor's office and MDH update: Nicole Blissenbach, assistant commissioner

- DLI has had more opportunities to work with other state agencies in response to the pandemic. It is having crossover mainly with the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) regarding safety protocols.
- Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Compliance is still enforcing standards and best practices. It is working with other state agencies to make sure workers are being protected during this pandemic.

COVID-19 claims; 2019 injury and illness rates: Brian Zaidman



Governor's safety team update: Breca Tschida



MNOSHA Workplace Safety Consultation update: Tyrone Taylor



MNOSHA Compliance update: Nancy Zentgraf



MNOSHA Compliance enforcement update: James Krueger



Arthur E. McCauley, Jr. Award nominations: James Krueger

• See complete information about the award at www.dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-compliance-arthur-e-mccauley-jr-award.

Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Council members' updates

Future agenda items: Paul Aasen, chairman

Scott Huberty said he is curious whether Mark Hysell's replacement in the Eau Claire office, Ruth "Mitzy" Wright, would be willing to join a future meeting.

Adjournment